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The Student Voice

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Maria Echaveste Visits WSC

Maria Echavaste

Heather Berkowitz
Contributor

This year, Worcester State College celebrated Latino Month by inviting Maria Echaveste to come and speak about Immigration and Labor Needs in the 21st Century. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of California at Berkeley and served as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Bill Clinton from May 1998 to January 2001.

Though the issue of immigration and labor needs is controversial, it's not just a U.S. issue – it's something that happens on a worldwide, daily basis. To understand why this issue is so controversial, we first have to know what we're fighting about.

Echaveste pointed out that historically, we've always had a problem with two key points. First, who gets to be an American? And second, how do we meet our labor needs? Today, the only industry that is entirely dependant on the work of illegal immigrants is agriculture; 60-70 percent of the 2 million illegal immigrants working on farms are illegal. Unfortunately, however, when the economy is going well, the government turns a blind eye to this. In fact, farmers are still given a three day notice *before* their farms are raided.

Surprisingly, however, of the 12 million illegal immigrants who cross our borders, fewer than 200,000 are given permanent visas for employment, and nearly half a million are able to overstay these visas. So, if all the illegal immigrants are working, why do we put so much emphasis on *them* instead of on the people hiring them?

The answer is simple: First, there's an old law that says it's not considered "harboring illegal immigrants" if they're employed. The process of tracking down illegal, working immigrants is so complex that it actually prevents the agencies from doing their job; in 2004, only four employers were penalized. Second, work conditions and wages are being pushed down so much that an American would rather stick to a minimum wage job flipping burgers than earn $10 an hour to pick vegetables.

"When the recruitment pool is the world," says Echaveste, "there will always be someone willing to do the work."

To help solve the problem, Echavaste proposes that we create a plan similar to credit cards. These cards would contain the immigrant's information, and the employer would simply have to scan the card for verification.

Cheryl Burlingame, a junior double majoring in Psychology and Spanish, believes it's an interesting idea to think of a program that would allow the illegal immigrants to work. After all, if that's what they're already doing, why not help them?

Meanwhile, Christina Pingitore, a Communication Sciences and Disorders major, was struck by the fact that most Americans would rather stay at McDonald's than earn twice as much in the fields. "Sure the job is harder," she says, "but no one can survive and support themselves on a minimum wage job."

Perhaps one of the most interesting things Echavaste spoke about came during the Q&A session. Someone had mentioned race, and Echavaste responded that it's still an unsolved problem. In fact, by the year 2050, Caucasians will be a minority. "It comes down to knowing people," she said. "If you know different kinds of people, you're less likely to have stereotypes." Over time, we have made progress; the fact that we even had a Civil Rights movement and that we ended legalized slavery speaks volumes, but we still have a ways to go.

Thirty years ago, California was in the top 5 states – all the top schools and best jobs were in the state; there were no problems when it came to educating all the white people that came from Oklahoma or Mississippi. Now that all of those faces have turned brown and black, however, they don't get to go to school and get an education to better themselves and their lives. "Instead of educating them," says Echavaste, "we built more prisons."

A Tale of Two Worcesters

Those Brits know how to party

Jeff Moffett
Layout Editor

Over winter break, I had the opportunity to visit England through a class I was taking. For a good part of the trip the group stayed at the University of Worcester. Worcester, England is a surprisingly different city from the Worcester we know and love.

The biggest difference is the level of activity around the city. Even though the University was in finals, the college seemed as lively as Worcester State ever does. A large portion of downtown is dedicated solely to pedestrian traffic. Theses streets were filled with people shopping and eating in restaurants. The activity subsided at around six o'clock when the shops closed. This is when the pub scene takes over.

Students are allowed to drink from the age of 18. There is a pub on campus and alcohol is allowed in the dormitories. Many areas also allow drinking in public. Students defiantly still drink to get drunk, but drinking also seems to be a casual activity in Worcester.

English men seem to be more open with each other in Worcester. Straight men have no problem dancing with each other in the club, as well as giving each other a kiss. In Worcester of the United States this affection is reserved for a few very specialized bars.

While English Worcesterites seems very open and tolerant, there is one group that they seem united in hating; themselves. While I did not have enough time to fully comprehend the rivalry, the English, Welsh, Irish, and Scottish all seem to at least secretly despise each other. This is not too surprising considering the bloody history these factions possess.

Worcester England is a vastly different place to live than Worcester Massachusetts. I would suggest anyone who is able to visit England and in particular, Worcester.

Study Abroad 101

Heather Berkowitz
Contributor

If you're interested in studying abroad, the good news is that many classes in participating foreign countries just happen to be taught in English. The bad news is that there are so many difference choices that your head will spin around like it does in *The Exorcist*. This is where Kelly O'Brien comes in.

O'Brien is the assistant director of Worcester State's study abroad program. With over 20 years of experience in international education, she has spent most of her professional years in Kenya and Uganda. She came to the college in September 2005 and has already begun revamping the Portuguese exchange program.

Though most students think that study abroad will cost and arm and a leg, O'Brien was quick to clarify that students participating in programs with related schools will only pay Worcester State's fees and tuition. For students with financial aid, the aid is reworked to cover studying abroad, including food expenses.

In addition, scholarships are available for students who are willing to go elsewhere besides Australia and Europe.

One in particular is the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, which is open to undergraduates who are US citizens and who are receiving a Federal Pell grant. Students willing to go to countries outside of Western Europe and Australia receive preference, though all students meeting the requirements are eligible.

Other scholarships include the Freeman-Asia program for students who wish to visit Asian countries; the National Security Education Program for freshman and sophomores or science and engineering majors; and the US Fulbright Program, which gives recent B.S./B.A. graduates, master's and doctoral candidates, or young or professional artists the opportunity for professional development.

Another way to study abroad at Worcester State College is with short-term faculty-led study tours. These programs take place over semester breaks and provide students the opportunity to continue working with their professors. These types of programs also give students the chance to apply and experience what they have learned in the classroom to real-life experiences. The destinations for these programs include the Galapagos Islands, United Kingdom, Costa Rica and the Amazon.

Finally, the third opportunity to study abroad is with independent programs, like Australearn. Financial aid often covers part of this cost as well, though additional money is required. According to O'Brien, the best part of some of these programs is that they fully immerse students into the culture in which they are learning. This, she feels, is the most important part about study abroad.

As she says, "The stone you skip across the water doesn't know anything about the water until it falls in."

Though it seems easy to join the study abroad program, student must be sophomores with a 3.0 GPA. O'Brien is working on getting this lowered to 2.5, on par with most other programs here at WSC. This, however, should not deter students with a less than 3.0 GPA from applying: Ultimately, *all* study abroad applicants have to approved by the Academic Affairs office.

Lastly, O'Brien reminds students who will be studying abroad to have low to no expectations about the experience. This way, you won't have any preconceived notions about what to expect – when you expect nothing, you can't be disappointed about anything.

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

On behalf of the entire staff of the Student Voice, I welcome you back to another semester at Worcester State. Personally, I hope that everyone's winter break went terrifically and that their first few weeks of classes have also been going well. This semester, my staff and I are hoping to tackle some important issues, both in the school environment, as well as more universally. There are a number of activities coming up this semester which look promising to say the least, from the comedian series, to the newest theatre production. There is almost always something going on at the school.

What if you feel like doing something off campus. We also will be covering local musical acts, as well as film reviews, both mainstream and independent (see review for Pan's Labyrinth), as well as any and all activities which would be of interest to Worcester State Students

As always, we are looking for more writers for our staff, so, anyone interested in getting active in their college community by doing some quality journalism and writing, need only stop by our office on the third floor of the student center. For those who may be less interested in writing, and more in publishing/design, we are looking now for anyone who may be interested in designing the layout of the paper, as well as future prospective editors. We have a schedule of meetings on our on the third floor door and all meetings currently take place at 3:30.

There are so many things going on in and around campus these days that it would be a shame to miss them. I hope that everyone will take this to mind, and read our paper (which is really your paper if you think about it). The semester has just begun and I look forward to seeing many a student sitting in the student center, the LRC, or even a bench outside in the middle of a snowstorm, expertly balancing a cigarette in one hand, this paper in the other. That would be beautiful. Ciao

Chris Degon
Editor-in-Chief

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MARCH 2ND-3RD

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- Snow Football
- Snow Globe Pictures
- Class Competitions
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Tell all your friends!!
Fun begins Friday, March 2nd @ 7 PM

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The Student Voice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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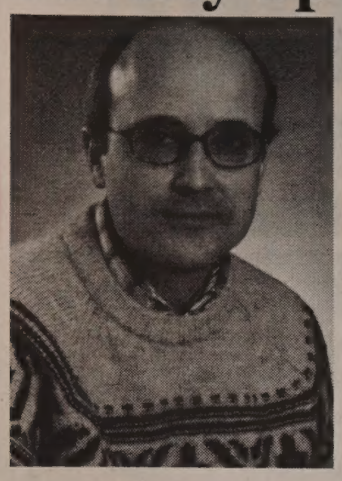
Faculty Spotlight: Frank Lamelas



Heather Berkowitz
Contributor

Question: How does a physics professor take a 32-chapter, 1,109-page book and break it down into chunks of information that all of his students can understand?

Answer: "I've been studying the material for so long that I understand the structure of how it works. There's a saying in Spanish that my mother used to say, 'el Diablo sabe mas por viejo que por Diablo.'"

Literally, the saying means, "the devil knows more by virtue of being old than by virtue of being the devil." It is easy to see how this phrase applies to Frank Lamelas: Though he "fell" into both physics and teaching, he has been teaching the subject since 1994.

Lamelas has taught at Boise State in Idaho and Marquette University in Wisconsin, but is in his second year at Worcester State. He and his wife, Sudha Swaminathan, who is also a physics professor at Worcester State, previously taught at different school in different states. Swaminathan had a lecture-only teaching position at Washington State University, while Lamelas was a tenure-tracked professor at Boise State.

Because the commute was 300 miles, they had separate apartments. Every other weekend, Lamelas made the drive to see his wife.

"It was hard with a child," says Swaminathan. "We looked for places that had a lot of institutions. This job is tenure-tracked for both of us, so it's more permanent."

Though the husband and wife team have only lived here for a couple of years, they have managed to completely integrate themselves into both the college community specifically and the education community in general. They are currently involved with numerous outreach programs that are in various stages of development and practice.

One project Lamelas is working on involves his own research regarding the growth of crystals under different conditions. First, it is important to understand why this research is important. "When crystals grow, atoms come together," explains Lamelas. "But they arrange differently under different conditions."

This is important because crystal growth has both fundamental and practical aspects.

Fundamentally, "water crystallizes with certain morphology in an ice cube tray and with a completely different morphology when a snow flake is formed," he says. "Understanding why these differences occur requires mathematical modeling of the process by which atoms are incorporated in the growing crystal."

The practical side of crystal growth is more interesting – and easier to understand. Crystal growth occurs in processes ranging from the production of semiconductors (the materials used in optical detectors and lasers) to biomineralization, which is the formation of crystals in living organisms. These crystals can eventually take on skeletal roles, becoming bones, teeth and seashells.

To further his research, Lamelas is building a small lab in the Science and Technology building. He is currently working on everything ranging from machine-shop work to electronics, optics and software. Hopefully, the lab will be up and running by this summer, and students will become involved in his research projects. Lamelas has worked with undergraduate students in the past, some of whom have been co-authors on scientific publications.

Along with other science professors, Lamelas and Swaminathan are working on a lecture series called Conjunto Experimental. This program is for students in third to sixth grades from Chandler Magnet who attend an afternoon program as part of the Latino Education Institute at Worcester State.

"In Milwaukee, we used to attend monthly science lectures for the public. Each month was a different subject and there were four lectures a month. They were well-attended and it was for all ages…it was very inspirational," Swaminathan says.

There have been three lectures so far, but they have more planned for next semester. Currently, undergraduate students are involved in this program. The topic and the professor giving the lecture changes each time, and two WSC students help with each lecture. Students receive a $200 stipend for their assistance. As more teachers get involved, so will more students, helping to increase both the publicity and attendance of the program.

Swaminathan is also working with Chemistry professor Anne Falke on a science program for women. From her own experience as a student, Swaminathan found that she was more comfortable in classes that were all female; she was not as afraid to break something or to make a mistake. This lab program is more open-ended and research-based than a typical physics lab session – the students don't necessarily come away with a firm "yes" or "no" type of answer. The program involves females from all over the Worcester-county area, in grades 10-12 who are currently taking physics or chemistry in their own schools.

The most striking thing about both Lamelas and Swaminathan is that they don't see their involvement in so many programs – in addition to raising a son, preparing class materials and teaching their classes – as a big deal. In fact, they both feel it is something they should be doing and were surprised when asked why they are involved.

Lamelas' answer was straight to the point. "I thought that the things I'm working on are part of my job description," he says. "That is, a college faculty member is supposed to teach, and do research, and work on service projects. 'Service' means serving on college committees and doing community projects, and so on."

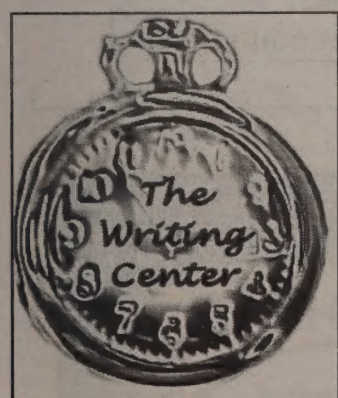
While Swaminathan mostly agrees, she also made it a point to include her personal feelings, as well. She is from India, and there is a lot of emphasis on having a solid background in science and math, but she feels that there is a lack of science awareness in the United States.

"I was inspired by a talk from a guy…who was losing science majors," she says. "He started an outreach program that met one evening a month and had a class on Saturdays for children in Kindergarten through grade 12. The kids got used to going to the college every week for the lecture and their science enrollment increased dramatically."

Her other reason for being so involved is that it is expected. A tenure-track job is multi-faceted, and involves doing different things and serving on committees.

In addition, "we represent Worcester State to the public," she says. "The only way to do that is to have these programs and say 'here are our scientists.'"

Most interesting about Lamelas is his son, Chami. Recently turned six, he's naturally curious, though both of his parents feel he's probably no more or less curious than any other kid his age. He learns about science at school and watches Zoom and other shows on PBS. Even though he knows many adults in fields related to math and science, his current career goal is to be a firefighter.



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February Student Activities Calendar

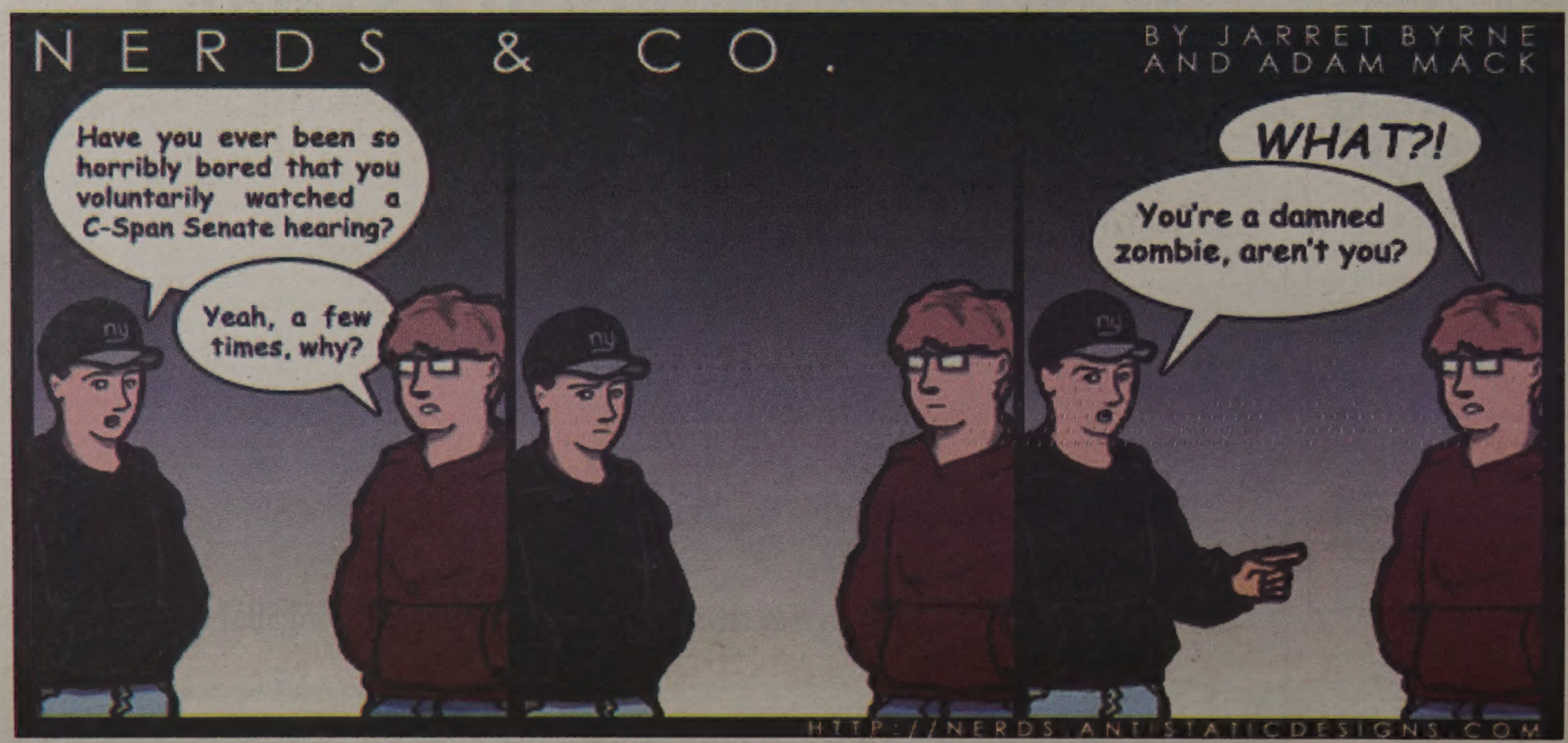
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 CAB Breakfast 9am-11am, OLP SEC Micro Stock Car Racing EA 11:30-3:30	**2** SEC All *Nighter:* 9:30pm Gameshow BL, 11pm Video Tournament, N/S 11pm-3am: Novelties FREE Food, video games, wax hands & movies	**3** CA Movie Night: CMH 8pm
4 Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**5** Surreal Games: X-Box Night OLP, 7pm SEC Movie: The Grudge II SHL, 7pm	**6** TWA Lecture Jeff Johnson BL, 10am SEC Movie: "The Grudge II" OLP, 1pm	**7** SEC Comedian: Lee Camp N/S, 8:30pm	**8**	**9** Environ. Adv. Group Movie: "Inconvenient Truth" 7pm, OLP Surreal Sci Fi Fridays, DHL 8-11pm	**10** Ski Trip: Mt. Sunapee 6am-7pm
11 Worcester Consortium Emerging Leaders Conference 10am, Assumption College Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**12** Surreal Games: X-Box OLP, 7pm OL Apps Avail. Careers in Student Affairs Panel 6-8pm, BL	**13** SC/SA: Art Party 7pm, OLP	**14** ***Valentine's Day*** SGA Anti-Valentine's Day Event, EA,	**15**	**16** Surreal Sci Fi Fridays, DHL 8-11pm SEC Movie: "The Return" 8:30pm, OLP	**17** Campus Ambassadors Prayer Night CMH, 7pm
18	**19 President's Day- No Classes** SEC Movie:"The Return" SHL, 7pm Surreal Games: X-Box Night 7pm, OLP	**20** SEC Movie: "The Return" OLP, 1pm	**21** Senior Portraits South Aud, 11am-6pm SEC Coffeehouse: Lee Waddle 8:30pm, OLP	**22** Senior Portraits South Aud, 11am-6pm	**23** Surreal: Sci Fi Fridays, DHL 8pm-11pm Pre-Med/Allied Health Fashion Show, eve, SC	**24** Campus Ambassadors "Revolution", 9pm, BL
25 Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL SC/SA: Game Night OLP, 7pm	**26** Surreal Games: X-Box Night OLP, 7pm	**27** Career Ser. & Chartwells: Dining Etiquette Dinner, 6-8pm Environ. Adv. Group Movie: "Inconvenient Truth" 7pm, OLP	**28** SEC & SC/SA: Battle of the Brains 7pm, BL			

Sponsored by Student Center/ Student Activities Office! Check out our website!

http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/stuact/

Abbreviations

BL: Blue Lounge
OLP: One Lancer Place
SC: Student Center
SHL: Seven Hills Lounge
CMH: Campus Ministry House
ST: Science & Tech
N/S: North/South Auditorium
DHL: Dowden Hall Lounge
EA: Exhibit Area



Mighty Pan

Chris Degon
Editor-in-chief

It is not very often that a film can make you cringe and cry at the same time. Nor is it commonplace for a foreign film to garner as much attention in the United States as this film has. Nevertheless, Pan's Labyrinth has finally been given a wide release and I am proud to say that it is one of the most visually and emotionally stunning films in recent memory.

Director Guillermo Del Toro proves his mastery in film with this mature fairy tale. With this serious (and seriously disturbing) masterpiece he establishes himself as a director that can do so much more than "comic book" adaptations while refusing to sacrifice his creative vision.

Set against the backdrop of World War II and Franco enslaved Spain, Pan's Labyrinth confers the story of a young girl named Ofelia. She is forced from her home in the city, with her pregnant mother, to live in an old mill turned military base in the Spanish woods, with her stepfather Capitan Vidal. While there, Ofelia happens upon a labyrinth where she meets the titular faun, who informs her that she is the reborn princess of the world "underneath", who has finally returned. The catch, as there always must be one, is that in order for Ofelia to return to her throne she must complete three mystical tasks. Meanwhile she must be cautious about her actions around the brutal Captain Vidal.

Visually, this film is unbelievable. This is truly a testament to the survival of movie theatres as this is a film that should be required viewing on a big screen. The dichotomy between the lush fantastical environments and the dreary "real world" is jarring, but in the most effective way. As for the creatures Ofelia encounters, Del Toro chose to keep CGI to a minimum, which infinitely adds to the authenticity and grit of the film. Pan looks as if he was made out of the rocks and earth itself. His movements are quick and realistic as opposed to the unnatural "flow" which CGI often creates. This extravagant and subtle display greatly adds to the audience's question of whether or not Pan is a friend, or something much more sinister.

Scene from "Pan's Labyrinth

Actress Ivana Baquero is phenomenal as Ofelia. She literally has to carry the film and succeeds with flying colors. American actor Doug Jones also shines beneath the prosthetics, giving life and motion to Pan, and the monstrous "Pale Man". Maribel Verdu is stirring as Mercedes and Sergi Lopez is terrifying as Capitan Vidal.

The score, composed by Javier Navarrete, is beautiful. The main theme is set up in the very start of the film and its payoff is at the very end. Much like the rest of the film, this payoff serves to cue the audience to its ultimate realization. Navarrete has crafted a haunting score that accentuates the most striking moments in the film stays in your mind days afterward, as the truly great film scores always do.

Oh…and did I mention that this film is violent. Though the television spots and trailers make this look like a wonderfully PG fantasy adventure, this film is firmly rooted in R-rated territory. While there is indeed horror in the fantasy, (see the above mentioned "Pale Man) it is the real world violence which is most disturbing, especially the actions of (and against) Capitan Vidal. There are moments when Del Toro purposefully keeps the camera on a shot which a PG-13 movie would have panned away from moments earlier. Though some may see this as overly sadistic, it terrifically reinforces the fact that despite the fantastical horrors which Ofelia sees, none are more terrifying than her stepfather.

I cannot recommend this film enough. The acting is spectacular, especially that of Ivana Baquero. The music is haunting and heartbreaking and as the credits role, you will have a hard time knowing if the tears you are crying are of sadness or joy. That is for you to decide.

Pan's Labyrinth
5 teardrops out of 5

P.S. It should be noted that the film is completely in Spanish, and makes use of subtitles. But if subtitles are the reason why you refuse to see possibly the best film of last year, then you don't deserve Pan's Labyrinth. Go watch some mindless schlock directed by Michael Bay.

Are you Mr. Worcester State?

Come show us your stuff!!
March 2nd @ 7PM
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1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prizes
Pick Up an Application at the Information Desk or Student Activities / Student Center Office

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Boston You're my Home

Mike Essery
Staff Writer

The city of Boston is an amazing place to be anytime of the year. Whether it be in the summer when one can hitch a ride with Duck Tours, or take a relaxing cruise in the swan boats, or in winter when you can ice skate on Frog Pond or just keep warm by visiting some of the best restaurants in Massachusetts. Another thing about Boston is the great history and pride the public takes in their athletic teams. The Boston Red Sox, the Boston Celtics, the Boston Bruins, and the New England Patriots have provided a total of thirty championships. Some seasons have been more successful than others. This past year has had its ups and downs, and there is no better example than the Red Sox.

The Boston Red Sox started off their season fairly strong, but by the end of the year things began to fall apart. The Red Sox ended up finishing third in the American League East, one game behind the Toronto Blue Jays, and eleven games behind the dreaded New York Yankees. Although the Sox did not make the playoffs there were a few bright spots during the season. For instance, rookies Jonathan Papelbon and Jon Lester proved that they could all stars in the league for years to come. Unfortunately Lester's season was cut short when he was diagnosed with a treatable form of Lymphoma. Recently it has been reported that the diseases is in remission, and Jon is planning on being at spring training.

The off-season has been a long and exciting one. The big acquisition for general manager Theo Epstein this winter was the Japanese sensation Daisuke "Dice-K" Matsuzaka. After dominating over in Japan and being named MVP of the World Baseball Classic, Matsuzaka cashed in and will join the Red Sox rotation for the upcoming season. Matsuzaka joins an already formidable rotation that includes, Josh Beckett and Curt Schilling, who intends on retiring at the end of the season. Josh Beckett will have a great deal to prove to Red Sox Nation after a very shaky and mediocre season in which he gave up a career high thirty six home runs. Papelbon will also make the move from closer to starter this season. This will leave a gigantic hole in the ninth inning. Many of the big name closers that were available this off-season have already signed with other clubs, leaving the Sox with very few options. The most likely scenario is to simply promote someone already in the organization to team closer. (It is a scary thought but it cannot be as bad as the "Closer By Committee" that they attempted a few years ago.) All in all the Red Sox are looking pretty decent heading into the season, and hopefully this year Red Sox Nation will have something to celebrate.

A team that has not given Bostonians a reason to celebrate in years has been the Boston Celtics. Ever since Danny Ainge took over basketball operations the Celts have seen more players come and go through trades and free agency. None of the trades have positively affected the Celtics. His latest acquisition of Sebastian Telfair has been a complete bust. The rest of the team has either been underachieving or on injured reserved. Paul Pierce has spent the majority of the season on the IR with a foot injury. The one bright spot is that it seems that Al Jefferson is finally starting to realize his potential. The Celts are 12-28, which is not decent at all. However the division Boston plays in is very poor. If Jefferson can keep up his strong play and Pierce comes back soon then the Celts could be able to sneak up on the 20-21 New Jersey Nets, who at under .500 are leaders of the Atlantic Division.

Switching from the hardwood to the ice, the Boston Bruins were expected to be fairly decent this season. With great free agent singings such as 6'9" defenseman Zdeno Chara and the point producing center Marc Savard, as well as high draft picks, Phil Kessel, the Bruins were expected to be in the midst of the playoff race. Although Chara and Savard have both helped the Bruins, many other things have not come to fruition. Goalie prospect Hannu Toivonen has been less than stellar. Heading into the season the Bruins were banking that Toivonen would end up becoming a solid number one netminder much like fellow Finnish goalie Kari Lehtonen of the Atlanta Thrashers. Unfortunately Hannu does not seem quite ready for the pressures of being a professional goaltender. With Hannu's poor play, goalie Tim Thomas has stepped up and become the team's number one. Thomas has had flashes of brilliance, but on basically any other team in the league he would be a backup goalie at best. Along with the goaltending issues, the offense is very streaky. Left wing Marco Sturm has been plagued with injuries while his line mate Brad Boyes has had somewhat of a sophomore slump. At the all-star break the Bruins are 22-20-4. They are currently the eleventh seed in the Eastern Conference, but only two points out of eighth place. Zdeno Chara was the lone Bruin named the Eastern Conference All Star team, however Phil Kessel made the Young Stars game, featuring some of the best rookies and younger players throughout the league. The most amazing thing about Kessel's accomplishment is that he did this a month after being diagnosed and treated for a form of testicular cancer. Best of luck to the Bruins, and hopefully they will sneak into the playoffs.

The New England Patriots had a successful season for the most part. The Pats started off the season with two victories against the Buffalo Bills and the New York Jets, before falling to the Denver Broncos. "The Brady Bunch" followed up their loss with four consecutive victories. The next two weeks would prove to be a difficult time for the Pats. Week 9 featured the return of Adam Vinatieri and the undefeated Indianapolis Colts to Gillette Stadium. New England ended up losing to Peyton Manning's Colts 27-20. Things did not get easier however as the Pats found themselves on the losing end of a heartbreaking 17-14 New York Jets victory. Suddenly the Patriots did not look as powerful as they once did. New England answered back however with a dominating 35-0 shutout against the Green Bay Packers. Chicago and Detroit both came into town and both left without victories. But just as things were starting to look up, the Pats went on the road to face division rivals the Miami Dolphins. The Dolphins handed them a 21-0 shutout loss. Luckily, the Pats managed to string together three good victories to end the season with a 12-4 record.

Heading into the playoffs is not something new for Brady, Belichick, and the Patriots. Their first game was against the wild card champion New York Jets. The Pats were able to defeat the Jets in a 37-16 victory to move on in the playoffs. Next up was the NFL leading San Diego Chargers. In one of the most exciting games of the season, the Patriots were able to squeeze by LaDainian Tomlinson's Chargers with a Stephen Gostkowski game winning field goal. After the thrilling game it seemed as though the Patriots were destined to continue on with their "dynasty". The Patriots now had to travel to Indianapolis for a rematch with the Colts. Early on it seemed as though the Pasts were a shoe in for the Super Bowl. The Pats dominated on offense and did not allow Peyton to get his offense in any rhythm. The Patriots had a commanding 21-6 lead going into half time. From there it was a downward spiral for the Patriots defense. Peyton Manning seemingly found every receiver in sight. The Pats went from playing the Chicago Bears in the Super Bowl to planning their off-season vacations. The Indianapolis Colts ended up defeating the New England Patriots in a 38-34 heartbreaker. This loss will go up there with the Boston Red Sox 2003 ALCS game 7 loss to the New York Yankees as one of the biggest heartbreakers in recent history. Things could get even more difficult for the Pats as they have fourteen players that are unrestricted free agents including Troy Brown and Asante Samuel. However, as long as Brady is behind center and Belichick is roaming the sidelines in his torn up sweatshirt New Englanders should not worry too much.

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Horoscopes for February

Aries
(March 21-April 19) You're going to lose something important: notes, your cell phone, your iPod, I don't know. It'll be expensive and essential.

Taurus
(April 20 – May 20) You will get tired and go to bed. Good job.

Gemini
(May 21 – June 21) Start planning for your Spring Break. Make sure you go with people who can tolerate you for more than a day.

Cancer
(June 22 – July 22) It's about time you got another hair style.

Leo
(July 23 – Aug 22) You've had food stuck in your teeth all day.

Virgo
(Aug 23 – Sept 22) Dude, clean your room. When was the last time you washed your sheets? Ewww.

Libra
(Sept 23 – Oct 22) Valentine's Day, man. Don't let it bring you down.

Scorpio
(Oct 23 – Nov 21) Go wild. Wear socks that don't match, have dessert before dinner and loosen up a bit. You're only young once.

Sagittarius
(Nov 22 – Dec 21) Break up with that loser. You'll thank me later.

Capricorn
(Dec 22 – Jan 19) Rent *Pulp Fiction*. You'll learn a lot about life.

Aquarius
(Jan 20 – Feb 18) Luck is in your future. Time to buy a lottery ticket.

Pisces
(Feb 19 – March 20) You should learn how to play the flugelhorn. You could be a great flugelhornist.

Worcester State Choral Proudly Presents: Singing Valentines.

One weekend only, Feb 9th, 10th, and 11th.

Serenade the ones you love with the Worcester State Chorale. Perfect for family and friends of all ages. And great for that Special Someone.

We will go to any workplace, restaurant, or home. As long as it is within 15 miles of Worcester.

~$25 for Worcester State Campus Valentines.
~$35 for off campus Valentines.
Price includes:
-2 songs sung by 20-25 people
- A personalized card
- Flowers
~If you would like to book us please email us @ WooStateValenties@hotmail.com or Call us at 508- 929- 0837
~Please Help support our trip to Greece
we will also be selling the valentines @ a table in the student center Wednesday Feb7th 12-5pm and Thursday Feb.8th 12-5.

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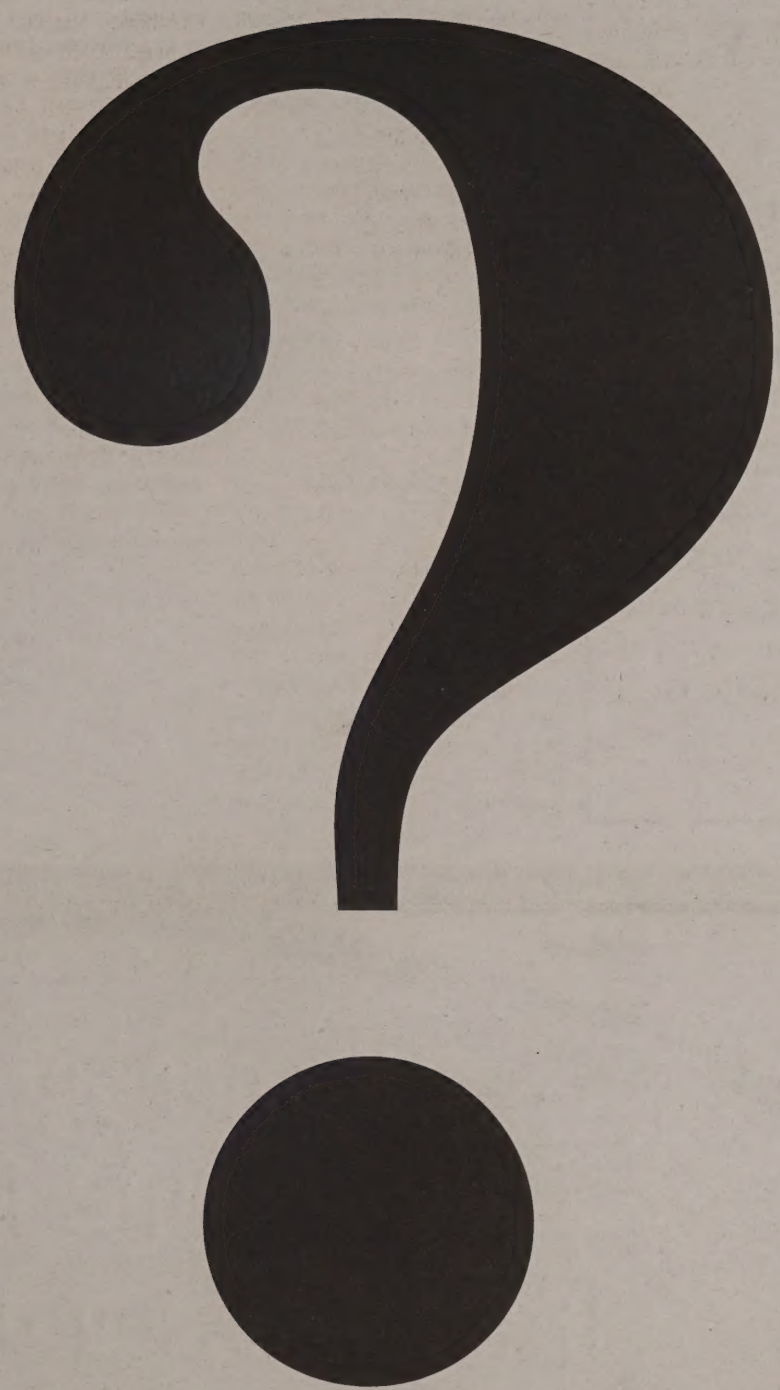


Because You Didn't Write Anything!!!!!!

Join The Student Voice and let your voice be heard. Meetings are most Tuesdays at 2:30. Meetings are held in the Student Voice Office (Org Wings, third floor of Student Center)

Senior Portraits

February 21 & 22

North/South Auditorium

for an appointment:
mcgrathstudios.com
password: wsc7

Travel with STS to this year's top 10 Spring Break destinations! Best deals guaranteed! Highest rep commissions. Visit www.ststravel.com or call 1-800-648-4849. Great group discounts.

Hey Jan: Not Right and Big Fight

Jan Brody
Advice Columnist

Jan,
I happen to be visiting WSC and saw your reply to Blondie in the paper. I've got to say that is the most ridiculously bad advice I've ever seen. I hope you do not aspire to ever be a real advice columnist. Stealing the suspected cheater's cell phone and sneaking onto his or her computer is not only a total violation of any trust that may still exist, it's even illegal. Even if this girl did find that her assumptions were wrong, how do you salvage a relationship that already lacking in trust by being untrustworthy yourself?
You apparently have very little relationship experience and are wholly unworthy of giving relationship advice. There's a term I use to describe a girl willing to steal cell phones and sneak onto a computer... Crazy! (and newly single)
MRC

Dear M,
I'm rubber and you're glue.

Dear Jan,
I live in a four person house in Chandler Village. Two of my housemates and I have lived together for three years. This year, one of my housemates got a new roommate we have not lived with before. We all get along great and are GFF. The only problem is, the two roommates are constantly fighting. They scream, punch, slap, kick and yell at each other. It's actually quite amusing. But anyways... if I wanted to, how can I get them to love each other and hug instead of hit?
-Overwhelmed

Dearest Whelmedover,
Annoy your RA about it. Seriously. These people get paid in goods and services to put up with things like this. They go through a month of training on how they're supposed to handle this exact type of situation. I don't know what it is about me but I seem to attract these questions about roommate issues the most. Do I seem like the type of person that has a hard time living with people? I'm quite a decent roommate, if you ask me. I love doing dishes. Sweeping is my favorite pastime. I don't think I'm going to answer these anymore.

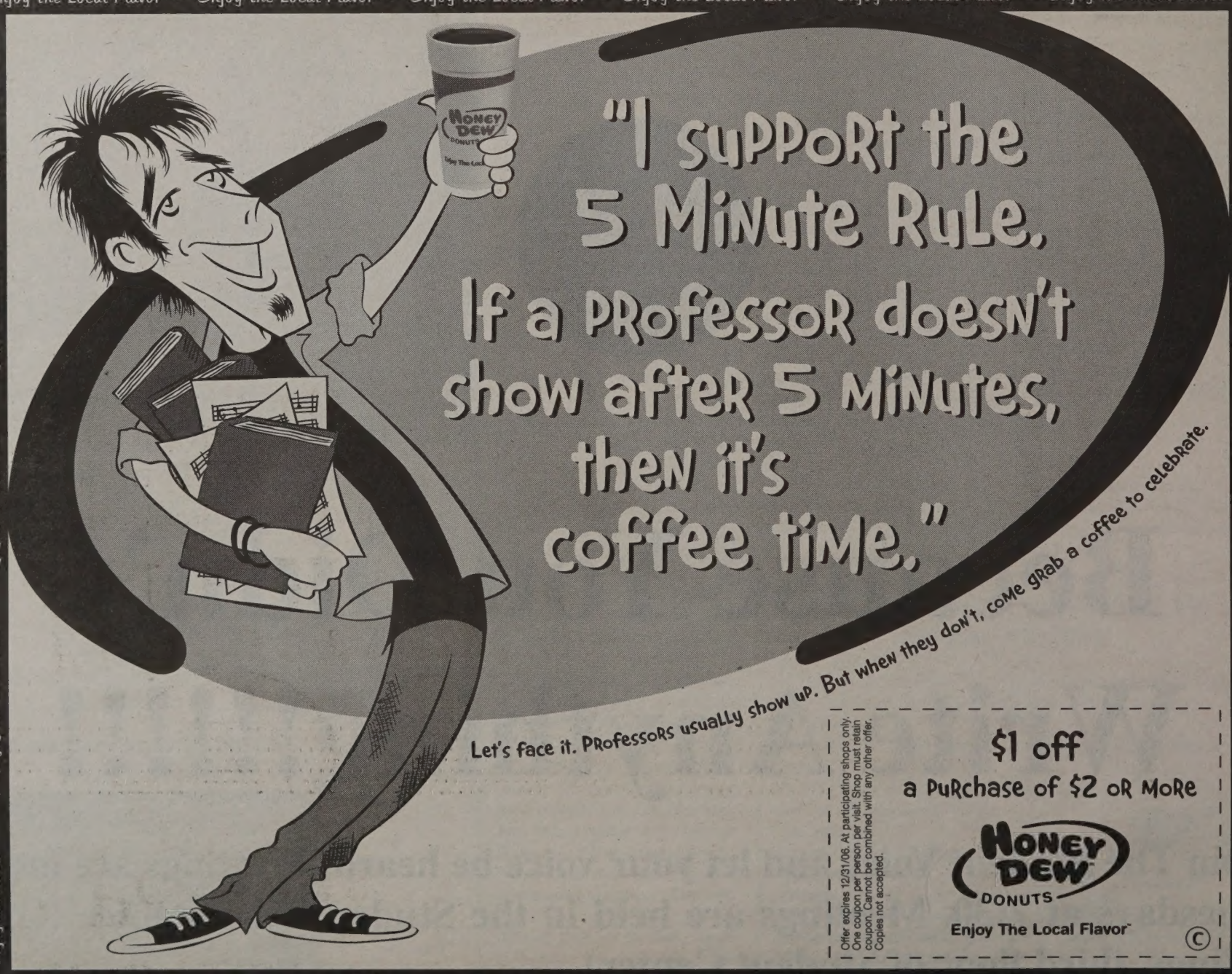
Good luck in your new classes, everyone. If you have any questions about what you should get your girlfriend for Valentine's Day or any other types of inquires, please e-mail me at ask_jan_voice@yahoo.com.

Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

The Chorale is hosting a fundraiser at PJ's Bar and Grille in West Boylston. All you have to do is come in and have drinks or dinner! There will also be karaoke at 8:00.

A portion of the nights profits will go to the Chorale, so bring as many people as you can, eat as much food as you can, and drink as much as you can!

Date:
Monday, February 5, 2007
Time:
6:30pm - 10:00pm
Location:
PJ's Bar and Grille
Street:185 W. Boylston Street (Rt. 12)
City: West Boylston, MA

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